











## ALM Statement: Banning Wild Hogs is Vital to Michigan's Agriculture Economy, Family Farms, Local Jobs

LANSING – The **Agricultural Leaders of Michigan** today released the following statement on the enforcement of Invasive Species Order Amendment No. 1, 2011, banning feral swine and wild hogs.

"The **Agricultural Leaders of Michigan** strongly supports the Michigan Department of Natural Resources in its effort to prevent and fight invasive species that endanger Michigan's agricultural industry and the thousands of local businesses and citizens who depend on it for their livelihoods. Given the serious threat wild hogs and feral swine pose to Michigan's livestock farmers, crop growers, rural landowners and family businesses, Michigan must ban these destructive, disease-carrying animals and close the door to all invasive species. Just as we do not want zebra mussels, Asian carp and other invasive species to threaten our economy, we should also not allow wild hogs and feral swine to proliferate and endanger thousands of jobs and Michigan's entire agriculture sector – a consistent growth area employing hundreds of thousands of people.

"For these reasons, Agricultural Leaders of Michigan urges policymakers in Lansing, as we have consistently done, to uphold the DNR's Invasive Species Order and support Michigan agriculture, Michigan growers and Michigan jobs."

## **CONTACTS:**

- Sam Hines, Executive Vice President, Michigan Pork Producers Association: (517) 853-3782
- Dave Armstrong, President and CEO of GreenStone Farm Credit Services: (517) 318-2290
- Ken Nobis, President of the Michigan Milk Producers Association: (248) 474-6672
- George House, Executive Director of Michigan Allied Poultry Industries Inc.: (616) 676-5593
- Ben Kudwa, Legislative Director of the Potato Growers of Michigan: (517) 669-8377
- Jim Byrum, President of the Michigan Agri-Business Association: (517) 336-0223